

THE WOMAN OF FASHION.

The promise of more variety and common sense in the new fall gowns is beginning to be fully broken. The second importation, which I have just been viewing, displays splendid extravagance of design and coloring, which



AFTERNOON DRESS NO. 1.

once attracts and appalls. The idea of wearing a dress of this material, for instance, with its dark ground work, and its network of quaint design over in small velvet or plush divisions, of bright colors, makes us feel as if we really don't wear it, and yet that if we did we'd be sure to look awfully nice and awfully striking. These great big plaids with stripes are very enticing, and so are the materials that have pretty fancy designs in bright colored silks covering them. It's hard to give them all names, and a great many of them thus far go by the name simply of novelty goods. And they are well named. There isn't a thing plain among them. Everything has a raised line or stripe of some sort or a silk or plush design covering it.

Some pretty fall dresses have made their appearance, and the style of them is like unto the Russian blouse, in some cases, with variations that give pretty effects. They are afternoon dresses, all of them, and they bear no trains. Paris has dropped her train altogether, except upon state occasions. Skirts simply touch the ground now and may even clear it if one desires. Will women welcome this, I wonder? Not if the new length brings with it the old cut of skirt, and drops altogether the light and comfortable bell. Much as has been truly written against that most injurious and, the train, it is certainly much less harmful combined with a light bell skirt, with no unnecessary folds, than a trainless skirt of heavy draperies and multitudinous folds. And it is to be devoutly hoped that every woman will join the crusade against the old, laborious garment that once had so complete a sway.

But to describe my afternoon dresses. No. 1 is a skirt of plain seal brown, with narrow bands around the bottom, also a deep ruffling yoke, and sleeves of the same material. The blouse is cut very low, and is of a delicate leopard shade. Black marabout feathers join blouse and yoke, and also edge the skirt of the blouse. A black girdle, combined with a gold buckle, stands out prominently on the leopard color. The little hat that goes with it is very ornate; it is a little fringed straw that scarcely reaches to the front of the wearer's head—just rests on her ears—and is trimmed only with a few bands of velvet ribbon, and a small sapphire, and strings that meet in a bow.

No. 2 is somewhat after the blouse cut—that is, in front, in the back it is



NUMBER 2.

coldest style. This blouse is also cut low and round at the neck, fastened to a full yoke of gray green silk. A little above the waist line the material is cut away altogether in front, and the two sides are held together by silk straps fastened by gold buckles. The gold buckle, by the way, is most in vogue just at present. Russian shawls of silk fall over plain light-fitting ones with silk collars. The skirt of this gown has the deep hem trimmed with two narrow diagonal silk bands.

No. 3 is most pleasing and most original. The material is a dull blue heavy fall silk, and is neatly combined with black velvet. There is a broad band of it at the edge of the skirt, and the band is again trimmed both top and bottom with marabout feathers. The plain blouse is covered with a border of fine guipure lace, also edged with marabout, as well as the pointed velvet belt, and the double black velvet sleeves that fall over the blue silk ones. These blue silk ones reach only to the elbow, and the light blouse that will be worn with the dress join the sleeves at this point. This is a pretty fall blouse, and it promises to be popular for some time. One's arm looks so much prettier encased in a glove to the elbow than in a sleeve.

I saw a very stunning black costume on the street today. The girl who wore it was very pretty, yet of exquisite figure, and looked well in the plain light-fitting black gown, of severely plain cut, buttoned down the back several inches below the waist. The front fitted everywhere without a wrinkle. But the hat was more striking still. It was of black guipure lace on a wire frame of very broad brim. Several ostrich tips stood up in front, as did several loops of black velvet ribbon, and between them was an immense wide bow of Russian

orange velvet. Under the rim in front perched a single velvet flower of the same vivid color.

From what I have seen of new hats, I should say that possibly the coming color for the fall is brown. It would seem so, from these outcomes of millinery skill. For almost every one had a touch of brown, or brown and white; and the greater part of them were built upon a brown foundation, branching out into gold and delicate lighter shades, until they paled to cream. And, as I noted with surprise, they had narrow velvet strings, every one of them. The brims were bent and curved considerably, and the crowns had fallen and widened out. One beauty was faced with flat ostrich feathers and trimmed with brown velvet and plumes, a bird of rich bright green perched among them. Another was well trimmed with bows of brown and white velvet and creamy plumes. But they were all trimmed in front; the summer precedent was faithfully adhered to.

The bib effects are becoming more and more lengthy. One on a delicate heliotrope silk has a cream lace bib of exquisitely fine thread hanging loose from the neck half way down the skirt. It is extremely pretty. Another is plaited in soft crepe over a russet-colored dress. A great many folds at the



NUMBER 3.

neck hang down at one side at all are slanted off considerably, so at the other side the bib is very short. These bib effects are very pretty over dresses that button in the back. If you desire to look real babyish and captivating, get a dress with full gathers in front, button it down the back and then have a dainty, flimsy, fancy bib hanging in true infantile style. The effect is wonderful—takes ten years off your life, if you can stand this cut of dress at all. EVA A. SCHUBERT.

BAD FOR THE EYES.

Several Things That Help to Make Men Blind.

Among the sources of the greatest trouble to the eyesight are the chomping of tobacco (this above almost all others), the excessive use of wine, spirits or beer; the indiscriminate administration of quinine; the use of cosmetics for heightening the luster of the eye, and mixtures for dyeing the hair and eyebrows, and there is a case on record where a diminution of vision has been traced to the wearing of an artificial wreath of flowers. Another source of failing vision may be traced to impeded circulation. The wearing of tight neckwear, such as collars which are too small, or shirt bands or neckties tightly drawn, should be avoided, as they prevent the downward column of blood returning to the heart, and dilatation and development of disease is likely to follow. The same rule holds good of constriction of other parts of the body.

Another most serious source of eye strain is constant reading in railroad carriages, which is the practice of nearly all business men in going to and from their offices or stores, and the injury to the eye from this cause is incalculable. Nothing gives tired eyes greater relief than a green disc or square of sufficient size, suspended on a direct line of vision at or against a wall, on which the eyes can rest; but best of all to look upon is a green grass plot or green trees. The green cloth of the police table is not good for the eyes at all. It is suggested that it would be a public boon if our monthly magazines were printed on paper of natural tint and the drop-curtains in theaters should have scenes painted on them showing great perspective. It is a rest to the eyes, after the concentrated effort made in trying to watch the facial expression or eyes of an actor, to look upon such a picture. —Pittsburgh Dispatch.

GOOD FISH IN THE SEA.

Where Some of Them Are Found and How to Catch Them.

There was never a fish which traveled under such a variety of names as the weakfish. It is called spotted sea trout, salt water trout, sun trout, spotted weakfish and half a dozen other things. It affords excellent sport about this time of the year in the Long Island sound, says the New York Press. Its tender mouth is its chief drawback for sporting reasons, as it is exceptionally difficult to bring to the shore or boat. They are best caught on the young fish, and shoulder crab and shrimp are the baits best liked in northern waters. "The best tackle," says Clarke, "is an eight-foot rod, with a multiplying reel and drag; Carlin's hooks and fifteen thread lines with one-ounce sinkers complete the outfit." Another fish which rejoices in a number of names is the gummy striped bass. It is known in the southern coast of the United States, from New Jersey southward, as "rock fish." In New England it is known as the spottail or greenhead. It ranges along the entire Atlantic coast, from the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, and enters every river it finds. It is a permanent resident and will hibernate if it fancies its surroundings. It is voracious and predaceous.

The methods of fishing for striped bass vary with its size. The big ones are taken along the New England coast from Gay Head to Montauk Point with menhaden bait. This is, by the way, the best catch of striped bass fishing and requires excellent looks. Get a weighing net to sixteen inches of ash and lancewood, natural or split bamboo eight or nine feet long. The reel should be a multiplier, capable of holding six hundred feet of line to fifteen thousand feet. The best hook is the knobbed trout or knobbed O'Shaughnessy.

new, 6.0 or 7.0. The hook is fixed to the line by three half stitches. The bait is cut from the posterior part of the menhaden and doubled round the shank of the hook, daisy side out, with a half hitch or two of the line around its upper part to hold it in place. Bits of menhaden are then chopped up and thrown into the water to "chum" the fish by the oily "slick" it oozes on the surface of the water.

GOOD CLOTHES.

They Give People a Sense of Contentment Which Nothing Else Approaches.

Talk about refinement of an easy conscience, it is not to be compared with the sense of absolute content and a wee bit of superiority thrown in that results from the consciousness that we are well dressed. Good clothes are positively a sort of moral support. You never will sink into oblivion if you manage to keep continually up to date in the matter of gowns and the pleasing et ceteras that go to make them perfect.

A woman's manners depend largely on her dress. If she knows she is inappropriately gowned or that there is something wrong in the cut or fit, the drapery or trimming, the Philadelphia Times says, she will be ill at ease and embarrassed, whereas a gown stamped all right in every seam will convert the same woman into a bright, witty creature, contented with herself and all the world.

It is simply dreadful, we know, yet there is hardly a woman who can appear perfectly unconscious when she comes before the public in a new gown for the first time. Clothes have such an influence on the feminine mind, at least, that the adage: "Fine feathers make fine birds," is about the truest saying in the English language. Good clothes make good manners is its more specific application, and if a man wants to see a woman at her best gown her in the newest and loveliest things at his command. She will more than repay the cost in the added sparkle in the eyes, the sweet air of confidence in her more correct appearance and a general demeanor of childish satisfaction that makes her bewitching.

HOW A BEE FIGHTS.

Fierce Engagement Between a Bumble and a Humming Bird.

An observer writes that he is satisfied that there is just as much rivalry between humming birds and bees in their quest for honey as there is between members of the human race in their struggle for the good things of life, and describes a recent quarrel that he saw in a Portland garden, where a humming bird with an angry dash expressed its disapproval of the presence of a big bumblebee in the same tree. The usually pugnacious bee incontinently fled, but he did not leave the tree. He dashed back and forth among the branches and white blossoms, the humming bird in close pursuit.

Where will you find another pair that could dodge and dart equal to these? They were like flashes of light, yet the pursuer followed the track of the pursued, turning when the bee turned. In short, the bird and the bee controlled the movements of their bodies more quickly and more accurately than he could control the movements of his eyes. The chase was all over in half the time that it has taken to tell it, but the excitement of a pack of hounds after a fox was no greater. The bee escaped, the bird giving up the whole chase and alighting on a twig. It couldn't have been chasing the bee for food, and there is no possible explanation of its unprovoked attack, except that it wished to have all the honey itself.

THE MOON DRAGON.

How an Eclipse of the Moon Is Regarded in Many of the Oriental Countries.

It is a time-honored belief in Turkey and many other oriental countries that an eclipse of the moon is caused by a huge dragon that seeks to devour our "silvery sister world," and in making the attempt winds his slimy body about it, thus hiding it from terrestrial observers. A writer on the Brandon Banner was in Constantinople on the night of August 23, 1877, the occasion of the great eclipse throughout eastern Europe and western Asia, and was a witness to the peculiar ceremony of "Kakak-may-yl," which was calculated to free Luna from her scaly monster. There was a general attempt made to frighten the "dragon" by firing muskets and revolvers and by beating upon drums, cymbals, kitchen utensils, etc. As in times past, it was soon found that the moon was beginning to show her face, and congratulations were everywhere heard upon the victory gained. This queer lunar superstition is not confined to any class, but is believed in by the rich and poor, ignorant and educated alike.

The Chantiqua Salute.

The crowning beauty of a Chantiqua girl is her pocket handkerchief. She has dozens of handkerchiefs, and they are all just too sweet for anything. She has embroidered them herself, and they match her dresses and often bear some beautiful little legend which starts you talking upon what soon becomes a very absorbing conversation. "The Chantiqua salute," she will tell you, "is the waving of a pocket handkerchief. When we come together our leader silently lifts his handkerchief, and everyone in the big auditorium waves a handkerchief at the same time. The effect is ever so impressive; it is our national salute, and we take great pride in having pretty pocket handkerchiefs ready for it. This one of mine is marked 'Mirzaph,' which means 'The Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another.'"

The English Army.

It grows harder every year to get recruits for the British army, chiefly because army life has not improved with the advance of the nation. Wages have risen until the average is three or four times that of a private's pay, and so a little intrigue has to be used. An order has been issued requiring all boys who apply for the place of telegraph messenger to agree to join the army at the expiration of their term in the messenger service. An English paper calls attention to the immense importation of boys in the ranks of the army, and the increasing difficulty of obtaining recruits owing to the smallness of the pay, the poor chances of promotion for those without influential friends, and the chilling manner in which the soldiers are treated where they ought to be welcome.

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